



United States Department of the Interior



Santee National Wildlife Refuge
UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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Refuge Announces Guided Bird Walks

Summerton, SC.... Come out and connect with nature at Santee National Wildlife Refuge this month. Fall is a great time of year to bring your family or enjoy the solitude you can find on one of the refuge's hiking trails or the Wildlife Drive. The Visitor Center is a great place to find out what's being seen on the refuge or to get information about upcoming events.

The refuge will be hosting two guided bird walks this fall in search of some of South Carolina migratory and over-wintering species. Late fall is a good time to come to Santee in search of such migratory birds as ash-throated flycatcher, dickcissel, and yellow-headed blackbirds. Winter waterfowl will be arriving too and you may see glimpses of over a dozen species of waterfowl and five species of geese, which spend their winters around the Santee Cooper Lakes. The bird walks will be lead by Charleston-native Nathan Dias, who is the driving force behind the Cape Romain Bird Observatory.

Guided bird walks will be conducted on Saturday November 19th and Saturday December 3rd. Participants should meet at the Santee National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center at 7:30 am. Participants should bring binoculars and a field guide and plan to spend the morning on the Bluff and Pine Island Units of the refuge. Sunscreen, bottled water, and snacks are recommended also.

The refuge visitor center is located off of Ft. Watson Road, 7 miles south of Summerton off Hwy 15/301. Please contact refuge Park Ranger, Susan Heisey at 803-478-2217 or visit www.fws.gov/santee for information or directions.

Santee National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1941 as a sanctuary for migratory birds. The refuge encompasses approximately 13,000 acres of habitat along the banks of Lake Marion in four separate units, and has approximately 39 miles of shoreline to maintain. The refuge visitor center as well as the Santee Indian Mound and site of Fort Watson are located on the Bluff Unit, 7 miles south of Summerton on Hwy 15/301.

The mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.

National Wildlife Refuges...Where Wildlife Comes Naturally!

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